Assassinations panel to view new JFK film

DALLAS MORNING NEWS

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By CHARMAYNE MARSH
Washington Bureau of The News

WASHINGTON — The House Assassinations Committee will view newly discovered film related to John F. Kennedy's death, but may not have enough money to determine if the footage shows a second person in the 6th-floor window of the Texas School Book Depository.

Chairman Louis Stokes, D-Ohio, said Monday he is "sure" the panel will see the film, but stressed the committee's 2-year life span is about to expire and funds are almost gone, so it is unclear what steps will be taken after the viewing.

The committee is expected to view the film, shot Nov. 22, 1963, by amateur photographer Charles L. Bronson, this week.

The film shows, according to expert Robert Groden, two moving images in the window of the sixth floor of the depository where Lee Harvey Oswald is believed to have fired the fatal shots.

Evidence may show James Earl R . brothers were involved in King murder, Page 5B.

But Groden, who analyzed the film for *The Dallas Morning News*, said it needs to be subjected to a sophisticated, costly computer analysis that would indicate if the two images are definitely persons. The analysis also would pick up details such as skin tones and clothing colors.

Asked if the committee would pay for the computer analysis, Stokes said, "If we don't have money, we can't spend it.

"I'm not going to foreclose anything," Stokes said. He said he learned of the film this past weekend from news reports.

Committee counsel and director G. Robert Blakey already has said it is "most unlikely" congress will decide to extend the panel's existence or give it additional funding.

The special assassinations committee was created in 1976 by congress specifically to look into the rumors and theories surrounding the deaths of Kennedy and civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

The panel was given $5 million and staff members said Monday there is only enough money left to pay salaries through December, when the panel expires. It is estimated the computer analysis of Bronson's film would cost several thousand dollars.

The committee has finished with the Kennedy assassination segment of its investigation and although it has not issued its official findings, the committee is expected to be leaning toward the same conclusion as the Warren Commission, that Kennedy's death was the act of a single gunman, Lee Harvey Oswald.

Conspiracy theory backer, say the film is the "most new evidence in 15 years" credibility to witnesses who FBI and Dallas police then t man other than Oswald at th window.

Unless the Bronson extremely persuasive, source the panel said Monday, it is this last-minute developm affect the outcome of the co report or force any re-open Kennedy investigation.

The panel winds up the K tigation Friday, Stokes said, a aside two days in mid-Dec cover late developments.

Despite photos, end to JFK probe p

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DALLAS MORNING NEWS

By CHARMAYNE MARSH
Washington Bureau of The News

WASHINGTON — The House Assassinations Committee is unlikely to continue its investigation of the John F. Kennedy assassination despite new evidence critics say indicate a conspiracy.

G. Robert Blakey, chief counsel for the House Select Committee on Assassinations, said Sunday the committee was established to last through this December and "it is most unlikely that it would be extended."

Blakey refused comment on a report in *The News* Sunday in which enlargements of movie film frames may show two persons in the 6th-floor window of the Texas School Book Depository building minutes before the shots were fired that killed Kennedy — at a time Lee Harvey Oswald was reported on the second floor.

The assassination committee probe agreed basically with the Warren Commission findings that Oswald, acting alone, was responsible for Kennedy's death.

The committee was set up by congress in 1976 specifically to look into the multitude of theories about the president's slaying and the fatal shooting of civil rights leader Martin Luther King.

Congress would have to decide whether to extend the committee's 2-year life span and increase its $5 million appropriation. Others involved with the committee could not be reached for comment Sunday night.

The new film, taken in 1963 by former Dallas resident Charles L. Bronson, was shown to members of the national media Sunday by the Assassination Information Bureau.

Carl Ogelsby, an employee of the bureau, which is a privately funded organization, said efforts to have members of the committee staff view the film "fell through." It was unclear whether the panel will ask to see the film and whether it will interview Bronson.

At the viewing of the film at a Washington hotel, film technician Robert Groden said it is "proof and important new evidence that someone else was on the sixth floor and that witnesses who said then (in 1963) they saw someone other than Oswald are not crazy."

Groden, of Hope Lawn, N.J., is an expert film technician who has been a consultant to the assassination committee and whose "enhancement" on the film taken by Abraham Zapruder was partly responsible for reopening the assassination investigation.

Groden, who said he received no money from the assassination bureau for his work on the Zapruder film, said he believes a conspiracy was responsible for Kennedy's death, not a lone assassin. He said the new film is not clear enough for a second inc be identified, but it does indi was more than one person or floor near the window at le seven minutes before the s fired that killed Kennedy.

He called the photograp reliable."

Dallas attorney John Siga senting Bronson, said his cli be glad to talk to the assassin mittee and show the film to m

Ogelsby said the ass bureau believes the commit explain why the Bronson fil examined previously and wh mony of two persons who cl